EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The title of the application has been amended as follows:

OPTIMIZED ORDERING OF FIRMWARE MODULES IN PRE-BOOT ENVIRONMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark R. Hennings on May 13, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

A. Amendment to Specification

Please, replace page 6, second paragraph of the Specification with the following:

Embodiments of the present invention are described in connection with the Intel@ Platform Innovation Framework for EFI Architecture Specification - Draft for Review, Version 0.9, September 16, 2003 ~~(available at www.intel.com/technology/framework)~~ and hereinafter referred to as "the Framework." The Framework is but one embodiment of an implementation of the EFI specification for a firmware environment. Further, it will be understood that embodiments of the present invention are not limited to the Framework or implementations in compliance with the EFI Specification.

Please, replace page 13, first paragraph of the Specification with the following:

Table 1 also shows the times for the test platform to resume from S3. The S3 sleep state is a system sleep mode described in the Advanced Configuration and Power Interface (ACPI) Specification, Revision 2.0b, October 11, 2002 ~~(available at http:www.acpi.info.)~~ Under the Framework, a modified PEI phase is conducted before the computer system can wake from S3.

Please, replace page 20 paragraph 2 of the Specification with the following:

For the purposes of the specification, a machine-accessible medium includes any mechanism that stores information in a form readable or accessible by a machine (e.g., a computer, network device, personal digital assistant, manufacturing tool, any device with a set of one or more processors, etc.). For example, a machine-accessible medium includes, but is not limited to, recordable/non-recordable media (e.g., a read only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM), a magnetic disk storage media, an optical storage media, a flash memory device, etc.).

B. Amendment to Claims 11 and 22

11. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising:
a machine-accessible medium including a plurality of instructions which when executed perform operations **in a computer system** comprising:
entering a pre-boot environment;
initializing in the pre-boot environment a Pre-EFI Initialization (PEI) foundation that includes a PEI Services Table that is accessible by PEI modules (P E N in the computer system, wherein each PEIM comprises a dependency expression, and wherein the PEJ, foundation comprises a PEIM dispatcher;
using the PEI foundation to provide PEIM services to the PEIMs; and
using the PEIM dispatcher to dispatch the PEIMs in accordance with the dependency expression of each PEIM.

22. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:
data stored in a machine-accessible medium [which] **stored to** encode[s] a set of firmware modules in a
predetermined order, the predetermined order defined according to:
a dependency expression associated with each firmware module of the set of firmware modules; and
metadata associated with each firmware module, the metadata describing module-to-module interfaces produced by each firmware module; and
code **stored in a machine-accessible medium** which in a pre-boot environment executes the set of firmware modules according to the predetermined order.

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Todd Ingberg whose telephone number is (571) 272-3723. The examiner can normally be reached on during the work week.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lewis Bullock can be reached on (571) 272-3759. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Todd Ingberg/
Primary Examiner

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